

**CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE**  
**For Coral Reefs, Fisheries And Food Security**  
**BUSINESS SUMMIT**  
**19-20 JANUARY 2010**  
MAKATI SHANGRILA HOTEL, MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES

**CLOSING REMARKS**

**BY**

**SECRETARY ELEAZAR P. QUINTO**  
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**OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, PARTNERS IN NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND FRIENDS OF THE CORAL TRIANGLE INITIATIVE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.... GOOD AFTERNOON AND MABUHAY!**

**LISTENING TO THE REPORT OF OUR TODAY'S SUMMIT CHAIR, I CAN SAY THAT WE HAVE INDEED ACHIEVED OUR GOALS SET AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR SESSION YESTERDAY. WHAT TRANSPIRED IN THE LAST TWO DAYS IS DEFINITELY REWARDING NOT ONLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT BUT MORE SO, FOR ALL OF US. WE WERE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT THE ISSUES AND CHALLENGES BESETTING THE CORAL TRIANGLE. WE WERE ALSO GIVEN THE CHANCE TO SHARE WHAT WE THINK COULD BE DONE TO OVERCOME THESE CHALLENGES.**

**TODAY MARKS THE END OF THE CORAL TRIANGLE BUSINESS SUMMIT. TIES AND BONDS HAVE BEEN MADE AND NETWORKS BECAME BIGGER. MORE PEOPLE WORKING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES FACING THE CORAL TRIANGLE WOULD MEAN INDIVIDUAL LOADS GETTING LESSENERED, AND IF WE COORDINATE AND COMBINE OUR EFFORTS, I AM SURE THAT IT WILL RESULT IN ACHIEVING OUR MISSION AND VISION FOR THE REGION IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT WAYS POSSIBLE.**

**THE SUPPORT COMING FROM THE BUSINESS SECTOR HAS BEEN OVERWHELMING. WE THANK ALL OF YOU FOR ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THIS SIGNIFICANT EVENT. GREEN INVESTMENTS, AS I'M SURE YOU'VE LEARNED IN THIS SUMMIT, DOES NOT ONLY HELP THE PLANET, BUT MAKES FOR SOLID AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

**FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS OF THE SUMMIT WE HAVE DISCOVERED THE LATEST TRENDS ON THE GLOBAL MARKET; WE HAVE LINKED OUR BUSINESSES TO SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT, AND; WE HAVE ALSO HEARD STORIES WHERE GREEN INVESTMENTS HAVE HELPED THE BUSINESS SECTOR IN SUSTAINING THEIR OPERATIONS. I ALSO HOPE THAT OUR HEARTS HAVE BEEN ENLIGHTENED DURING THE COURSE OF THE SUMMIT AS WE BECAME AWARE OF THE DIFFERENT FIELDS WHERE WE COULD INVEST. IN THE END, THE SIGNING OF THE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS, IS A SYMBOL OF OUR COMMON DESIRE TO PROTECT THE CORAL TRIANGLE. I HOPE THIS SUMMIT WOULD BRING MORE PARTNERSHIPS IN THE FUTURE NOT ONLY FOR THE CORAL TRIANGLE BUT ALSO IN OTHER ENDEAVORS FOR THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF OUR LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM.**

**MOREOVER, LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THE HOLDING OF THE CTI BUSINESS SUMMIT AND THE REGIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME IS AMONG THE PHILIPPINES' HUMBLE CONTRIBUTION TO THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY. THROUGH THE LEADERSHIP OF FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND UNDER THE DIRECTIVES OF HER EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, WE HAVE LINED UP SEVERAL ACTIVITIES STARTING THIS JANUARY, ONE OF WHICH IS THIS EVENT, TO COMMEMORATE 2010 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY.**

**FRIENDS AND PARTNERS, THIS IS ACTUALLY NOT THE END, AND NOT EVEN THE BEGINNING OF THE END, AND TO CONTINUE MY QUOTING OF PRIME MINISTER WINSTON CHURCHILL, THIS IS ACTUALLY THE END OF THE BEGINNING. WITH ALL THAT WE HAVE LEARNED HERE, ALL THAT WE HAVE PLANNED, IT IS OUR FERVENT HOPE TO SEE THIS KNOWLEDGE PUT TO GOOD USE AND THESE PLANS COME TO FRUITION. THE TIME HAS COME TO LEAVE THIS CONFERENCE HALL AND PUT OUR IDEAS AND PLANS TO WORK. BECAUSE THE TRUE MEASURE OF WHATEVER WE HAVE SUCCEEDED OR NOT IS WHEN WE START IMPLEMENTING THE PLANS AND PROGRAMS THOUGHT OF DURING THIS SUMMIT. SO, OUR WORK TRULY BEGINS TODAY, BUT WE ARE NOW BETTER ARMED TO FULFILL OUR MANDATE.**

**ON THIS NOTE, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS, RESOURCE PERSONS, MODERATORS, GUESTS, AND DELEGATES TO THIS SUMMIT. IN BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WWF FOR JOINTLY ORGANIZING THIS EVENT. OUR THANKS IS ALSO EXTENDED TO OUR SPONSORS, NAMELY, AYALA CORPORATION, FRABELLE FISHING CORPORATION, CENTURY TUNA, DUNHAM BUSH, YKL PRINTING, EL NIDO RESORTS, STAGECRAFT, AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, AMONG OTHERS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE PARTICIPATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CT6 COUNTRIES TO THIS SUMMIT AND THE SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE USAID THROUGH THE US GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO THE CTI, IN ORGANIZING THE REGIONAL EXCHANGE AMONG CT6 COUNTRIES.**

**TO ALL OF US, CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE.**

**AGAIN, THANK YOU AND MABUHAY!**

Closing Message-Sec Quinto -1-18-10